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Annual Report

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OF THE

TOWN OF CHINA

FOR THE

Municipal Year Ending March 10,

1900.

HALLOWELL, MAINE
CHARLES A. PRESCOTT, PRINTER
1900

Annual Report

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Assessors' Report.

VALUATION.

Real estate, resident	$358,765 00	
Real estate, non-resident	29,140 00	
		$387,905 00
Personal, resident	77,480 00	
Personal, non-resident	1,000 00	
		78,480 00
Total valuation		466,385 00

No. Polls, 383. Rate taxation, .0185.

A. P. MOSHER,
J. O. FISH,
E. A. DUDLEY,
Assessors of China.

Selectmen's Report.

RESOURCES.

Tax deeds in Treasurer's hands March 9,1900,	$440 51
Cash in Treasurer's hands March 9, 1900	20 00
Uncollected taxes, commitment of 1898	2272 24
Refunded dog licenses	43 44
State tax	1549 53
County tax	632 29
Town tax and overlayings	7595 30
Received from State for burial of soldiers	59 50
Received from Palermo for Geo. Morton bill of 1898	11 00
Fairfield for Yorks	180 75
Vassalboro for Yorks	198 08
Augusta for Nath. Buker	4 00

Augusta for Arthur Smith's wife	5 00
Randolph for Lewis H. Dudley	18 00
Levi Jackson for schoolhouse	7 00
State school fund	911 40
	13,948 04

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES.

Paid for printing town reports	26 35
J. F. Pierce, blank books and stationery,	9 04
Loring, Short & Harmon, blank deeds	2 05
Smith & Reid, val. book	4 85
C. J. Lincoln, reporting births and deaths 1898	5 00
C. J. Lincoln, reporting births and deaths 1899	3 75
D. A. Ridley, reporting births and deaths for 1896, 7, 8 and 9	8 25
G. J. Nelson, reporting births and deaths 1899	3 50
W. W. Washburn, recording births, deaths and marriages	10 80
F. O. Brainerd, cash ex. schoolhouse case	5 00
F. O. Brainerd, cash for postage and printing	3 35
A. P. Mosher, cash expense	9 05
H. P. Reed, postage	4 00
H. H. Hall, care town house	3 00
F. O. Bonney, money orders and postage,	5 09
H. J. Haskell, damage to sheep	3 00
making val. book	10 00
A. M. Goddard, legal advice	4 00
F. O. Bonney, percentage on com. of 1898,	34 59
" " " 1899,	96 96
" treas. abatement tax deed,	4 84

Paid F. O. Bonney, coll. abatement commitment, '98	55 20
" coll. abatement commitment '99	62 64
burial expenses of Wm. P. Curtis	29 00
" " Wm. Tolman	30 50
H. J. Haskell for L. H. Dudley bill of 1898	10 00
H. J. Haskell for L. H. Dudley bill of 1899	18 00
	461 81

NEW SCHOOLHOUSE.

Paid A. S. Bean, lot	50 00
Sproul and Hallowell for building	625 00
Ohio Rake Co., desks	60 35
O. F. Sproul, freight on desks	7 50
Reddington & Co. for furniture	9 80
Malcolm & Dyer, for stove and pipe	18 98
	771 63

REPAIRS ON SCHOOLHOUSE AT WEEK'S MILLS.

Paid A. R. Burrill	339 50
Ohio Desk Co.	52 40
Reddington & Co., furniture	9 00
A. R. Burrill, freight on desks	8 57
" " supplies	4 59
	414 06

GUIDE BOARDS.

Paid Metallic Guide Board Co. for boards and fastenings	27 25

Paid for express on same	1 14
for posts and labor erecting same	15 50
	43 89

PAID FOR HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES AND BREAKING DOWN SNOW.

Paid for breaking down snow winter of 1898 and 9	1907 79

PAID FOR LABOR AND MATERIAL ON HIGHWAY SUMMER 1899, AS FOLLOWS:

Paid Linwood Jones	75
W. R. Hathaway	65
A. D. Chadwick	1 00
J. O. Bragg	50
F. C. Plummer	3 75
Fred Weeks	25
V. R. Neal	3 45
James Cook	3 45
H. P. Reed	7 45
A. G. Malcolm	10 30
J. F. Plummer	4 20
Ed Bragg	2 00
Fred Parmenter	1 00
O. F. Sproul	1 50
W. O. Marden	1 00
Warren Morrill	1 00
O. G. Cram	8 00
W. O. Farrington	3 00
Chas. Chandler	3 00
John Thurston	6 00
Hollis Kellar	3 15
S. B. York	6 00
Alvin York	1 00
E. B. McLaughlin	3 00
H. J. Haskell	3 00

Paid Arnold Small	1 30
Chas. Morrill	5 30
L. A. Jackson	7 00
Hadley Kellar	8 40
Alfred Thurston	3 35
Lora E. Kellar	1 55
W. R. Jerolman	3 30
F. S. Mitchell, plank	4 13
F. E. Hall	78
C. H. Freeman, plank and labor	4 19
F. O. Bonney	2 00
B. S. Plaisted	2 00
Levi Hallowell	3 00
Aaron Davis	1 05
A. R. Burrill	13 00
" " plank	15 80
J. A. Cates	2 50
I. T. Merrill	3 75
B. H. Moody	2 50
Henry Lewis	5 68
L. W. Lewis	2 87
Willis Philbrick	2 00
C. L. P. Handy	2 50
Chas. Bailey	35
Chas. Dutton	7 20
Ruel Farris	3 25
Mrs. Farnsworth	3 50
Wm. Colley	3 50
Ed Lewis	1 65
W. S. Hunnewell	3 50
Oscar Crane	3 50
F. C. Goodspeed	2 50
Chas Freeman	3 50
J. M. Goodspeed	3 00
M. M. Trask	75
H. B. Reed & Son	5 03
R. H. Reed	9 98
G. G. Oakman	3 50

Paid I. L. Jones	7 00
H. H. Hall	3 50
Geo. H. Freeman	6 00
S. C. Starrett	1 50
Lewis Masse	75
W. J. Thompson	75
J. E. Mosher	45
A. P. Mosher	9 15
Lewellyn Jackson	6 00
Frank Sproul	11 31
Geo. Weeks	1 50
W. R. Webber	1 50
A. A. Malcolm	4 30
Henry Talbot	1 62
Hadley Kellar	1 25
Alfred Thurston	3 00
John Thurston	9 13
Chas. Pooler	1 75
Fred Burgess	1 75
Frank Rand	2 65
J. L. Goddard	5 00
D. LaMere	3 85
H. P. Chapman	90
O. N. G. Ward	2 35
W. F. Ward	4 15
F. C. Crowell	2 15
Simeon Strout	2 25
Isaiah Wiggin	1 35
Henry Kenric	1 85
E. A. Randall	1 75
Chas. Pinkham	1 75
C. W. Jones	1 75
L. J. Randall	1 75
E. C. Bailey	1 75
H. N. Randall	1 75
L. E. Mitchell	1 75
Fred Bragg	1 75
F. S. Mitchell	7 00

Paid Frank Abbott	3 50
Bateman Wentworth	3 50
A. R. Ward	7 00
Chas. Getchell	7 00
Fred Gerald	4 50
John Bracken	1 50
J. W. Brown	2 45
J. N. Hall	8 35
C. J. Main	6 45
B. F. Jepson	2 00
F. B. Foye	4 90
Chas. Berry	1 50
G. E. Roberts	5 25
J. A. Peva	7 50
H. B. Reed	4 29
J. R. B. Dinsmore	1 50
W. F. Morse	1 00
F. D. Shorey	3 00
Walter Snell	6 00
N. T. Hallowell	5 24
A. J. Hallowell	3 00
J. P. Ellis	1 20
E. C. Webber	1 50
Oscar Sibley	3 50
J. O. Bragg	3 45
Nelson Page	1 50
Harry Doe	7 00
Ruben Page	1 50
D. F. Sanborn	3 50
W. F. Mills	2 50
Geo. S. Clark	8 25
Philander Freeman	1 50
Chas. Worth	1 50
J. B. Morrill	2 70
A. P. Morrill	4 70
D. L. Clark	3 50
Elihu Hanson	3 25
Geo. M. Crossman	12 25

Paid S. N. Ward	4 00
Geo. Norton	1 50
J. N. Sprague	5 00
Chan Parmenter Est	3 95
O. W. Jones	3 50
W. S, Tobey	3 75
E. M. Dowe	3 45
A. S. Beane	4 50
John Small	2 55
Walter Tobey	2 55
S. G. Parmenter	50
W. S. Tobey, plank	19 87
Crommett & Bradstreet	1 30
E. A. Dudley	19 63
J. A. Jones	3 50
W. F. Morse	6 00
Geo. Jackson	8 50
M. L. Sabin	3 25
Andrew Webber	3 50
W. R. Webber	7 25
D. W. Whitehouse	4 50
C. W. Randall	2 50
Frank Sproul, plank	12 00
Chas. H. Jackson	2 25
H. J. Haskell	7 00
Wm. Harmon	3 00
B. W. Clifford	1 50
Perley Dodge	2 50
H. M. Crommett	1 00
C. E. Jackson	5 75
Eben Hallowell	1 75
Levi Hallowell	1 75
S. B. York	6 50
Chas. Freeman	3 50
A. R. Burrill	1 00
F. C. Plummer	2 00
Wilder McMitchell	65
S. C. Starrett	2 50
S. D. Giddings	1 00

Paid A. D. Chadwick	2 00
J. H. Mosher	2 00
W. R. Hathaway	2 00
O. F. Sproul	2 00
Levi Stuart	3 15
J. L. Campbell	4 40
O. F. Sproul, plank	8 10
Henry Perkins	1 42
A. E. Shuman	1 50
H. L. Pinkham, watering place	3 00
John Norton	4 25
Geo. Seco	3 00
Lora E. Kellar	3 60
Ed Taylor	75
J. O. Fish	8 25
A. F. Wales	2 50
	726 03

PAUPER EXPENSE OFF FARM.

Paid for Vassalboro Yorks	198 08
" Fairfield "	180 75
S. B. Jones for Philip Childs	5 00
C. J. Lincoln " "	1 75
Maine Industrial School, Sarah Kitchen,	26 00
Crommett & Bradstreet, Wm. Tolman, and wife	107 45
Crommett & Bradstreet, Nath. Buker,	4 00
V. R. Neal, Care of Harriet McLaughlin,	19 30
Mrs. McCurda " " " "	2 00
D. A. Ridley for Arthur Smith's wife	5 00
C. J. Lincoln Med. Att. on Hustus family,	6 25
	555 58

Of this sum other towns have paid as follows:

Vassalboro, for Yorks	198 08
Fairfield " "	180 75

Augusta for Nath. Buker	4 00	
" " Arthur Smith's wife,	5 00	
	387 83	
There is due from other towns:		
Unity, for Philip Childs	6 75	
" " Hustus family	6 25	
		400 83
Leaving cost of poor off farm,		154 75

COST OF POOR ON FARM.

Paid E. W. Haskell and wife, supt	225 00
T. S. Farrington, groceries	61 37
S. B. Jones, groceries	27 43
W. F. Hawes, groceries	61 83
C. J. Lincoln, med. attendance	6 50
	382 13

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

Paid A. P. Mosher, selectman, assessor and overseer of poor	127 35
J. O. Fish, selectman, assessor and overseer of poor	54 75
E. A. Dudley, selectman, assessor and overseer of poor	58 65
G. J. Nelson, supt. of schools	115 00
W. W. Washburn, town clerk	10 00
F. O. Brainerd, auditor	2 00
F. O. Brainerd, moderator	2 00
F. O. Brainerd, school com	11 25
W. F. Hawes, school com	7 25
E. M. Dowe, school com	9 00
	397 25

BOARD OF HEALTH.

Paid G. J. Nelson, board of health	8 50
J. E. Crossman, " "	6 00
C. J. Lincoln, " "	5 75
G. J. Nelson, vaccination, 1898-9	38 50
C. J. Lincoln, " "	20 50
S. S. Lightbody, for vaccine points	36 00
	115 25

G. A. R. FOR MEMORIAL DAY.

Paid A. G. Billings Post	12 50
J. P. Jones Post	12 50
	25 00

GENERAL STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

Paid for roads, bridges, and breaking snow,	2633 82
miscellaneous	461 81
new schoolhouse at Branch Mills	771 63
repairs on schoolhouse at Week's Mills	414 06
guide boards	43 89
pauper expenses off farm	555 58
poor on farm	382 13
town officers	397 25
Board of health	115 25
G. A. R. for Memorial Day	25 00
int. on town bonds	409 50
schools	2532 58
repairs on schoolhouses	108 38
text books	180 76
State tax	1549 53
old orders	608 30

Paid for County tax of 1898			296 65
			11,486 12
Resources	13,948 04		
Expenditures.....	11,486 12		
		2461 92	
Unpaid orders.....		760 29	
			3222 21

Leaving in hands of Coll. and Treas. as follows:

In hands of F. O. Bonney, Treas.:

Tax deeds.....	380 93	
Cash.....	25 00	
F. O. Bonney, Coll.....	2816 28	
		3222 21

LIABILITIES.

Unpaid orders.....	760 29
County tax.....	632 29
Town bonds.....	14,000 00
	15,392 58

RESOURCES.

Resources in hands Coll. and Treas.....	3222 21
Due from Unity, for Philip Childs.....	6 75
" " " " Hustus family.....	6 25
" " Vass. Henry Allen.....	18 15
" " D. LaMere for schoolhouse.....	12 50
" " L. Hallowell " "	8 00
W. & Q. R. R. stock.....	15,000 00
	18,273 86
Deduct liabilities	15,392 58
Balance	2881 28

I hereby certify that I have examined the foregoing accounts and find them correct, with proper vouchers for same.

O. F. SPROUL, Auditor.

China, Mar. 10, 1900.

RECEIPTS OF TOWN FARM SUPERINTENDENT YEAR ENDING MARCH 5TH, 1900.

Balance on hand from last year	1 37
Recd. for butter	17 26
eggs	22 03
potatoes	9 75
hay	113 66
boarding hay pressers	4 00
use of hearse	15 00
horse	20 00
	203 07

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid for dry goods and groceries	131 55
phos	20 30
use of male animal	3 00
filing saws	85
horse shoeing	4 25
repairs on horse rake	60
corn and meal	14 33
repairing boots	1 00
pigs	3 00
planting corn	1 25
repairing harness	1 30
machine oil	20
screen door	1 30
meat and fish	15 14

Cash on hand	5 00
	203 07

INVENTORY OF STOCK AND PRODUCE ON FARM MARCH 5TH, 1900.

1 horse	$140 00	5 cows	125 00
2 yearlings	40 00	2 shoates	10 00
30 hens	9 00	10 tons hay	100 00
1 ton straw	4 00	15 bu. oats	5 25
4 bu. beans	8 00	150 lbs. pork	12 00
30 bu. potatoes	12 00	1 bu. beets	50
1 bbl. flour	4 50	46 lbs. ham	4 60
2 mowing machines	25 00	Express wagon	20 00
Farm wagon and hay rack	25 00	Chains	2 00
3 hand hoes	75	Ox cart and wheels	10 00
Shovels, forks and rakes	2 00	3 yokes, rings and staples	3 00
1 plough	8 00	2 iron bars	1 50
Hay fork and rope	4 00	1 nest dry measures	1 50
1 M. shingles	1 50	4 stone drills	2 00
4 wood saws and 2 axes	2 50	2 harnesses	18 00
30 flour barrels	3 00	14 lbs. lard	1 12
Horse sled	2 00	½ bu. peas	75
		Spring tooth harrow	10 00
			618 47

As will be seen by our report, the services of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Haskell were retained by us to superintend the almshouse during the past year and believing they have performed their duty faithfully and well, we would very cheerfully recommend them to our successors. The inmates are the same as reported in last annual reports.

We believe a small appropriation should be made to be expended on one of the barns. A few years since our barn was repaired very thoroughly at quite a little expense. We recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be raised to be expended under the direction of the selectmen in repairing the other barn. Unless some repairs are soon made it will become worthless, and it is very much needed for room for storage and other purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

A. P. MOSHER,
J. O. FISH,
E. A. DUDLEY,
Selectmen of China.

China, Mar. 10, 1900.

Report of School Committee

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1900.

The Superintending School Committee submit a report of their work for the year just past, and a financial statement, so far as is in our province. The amount of school money received and expended may be found (and should be) in the Superintendent's Report. In addition to our regular routine work of the care and custody of the school property of the town, the furnishing of wood and supplies, and the incidental repairs, we have been enabled to make some permanent repairs. We expended thirty dollars in reshingling the roof of the schoolhouse at Week's Mills, and forty-two dollars in repainting with two coats the large schoolhouse at China village. There are some other schoolhouses that should be similarly treated this spring, and we recommend at least the same amount as last year for repairs. We believe it is imperative that the schoolhouse in No. 14, or Mosher school, should be extensively renovated and made practically good as new, with new up-to-date school furniture, and respectfully recommend that the town appropriate such sum for that purpose as its wisdom may suggest.

The transportation problem is one that is causing your Committee some labor and perplexity. The law requires that the Superintendent of Schools must procure the conveyance of all public school pupils that the Superintending School Committee decide ought to be so transported, and your Committee have endeavored to deal justly between the rights of the pupils in transporting and the rights of all the pupils in town to have all the schooling possible with the money appropriated. We have not responded to all the calls

for transportation; we could not. As it is, we were only able to provide twenty-four weeks schooling during the past year. Our transportation bills amounted to $328.80, and we have only this consolation, that it is less than many other towns. We have a large territory to cover, and "the waters divide us."

The most notable transaction of the Committee in the past year has been the exchange of text books. Our yearly bill for purchase of new books to patch up the old ones has averaged about $150. We thought it a bad policy, as our books had been so long in use as to be of little practical value to many pupils; they were old in every sense, and justice to the pupils and regard for an advancement in our school work demanded a change. We cast about for it, and have made such an one as we believe the town will commend. By an arrangement with Ginn & Co. of Boston, we are enabled to make an entire change of text books for the same expense yearly for three years as we have paid for books to replace those worn out of the old kind, viz., $150. The Committee estimate that with the sum of $150 annually for three years, and the old books that we shall send back at an exchange price, we can accomplish an entire exchange of books. This will enable the town to have its old school books replaced with other and better series without a cost of $450 or $500 in a lump sum as would otherwise be the case by an exchange at one time, as is usually done. The school publications of Ginn & Co. are used in many towns of this State, and your Committee believe them as a whole superior to many others.

A new schoolhouse has been built at Branch Mills and the one at Week's Mills thoroughly repaired, practically rebuilt, and both supplied with new up-to-date furniture.

The Committee have no recommendation for building a new schoolhouse in town this year, but recom-

mend the repair and refitting of some now in use that very much need to be renovated.

We received by vote of town last spring for repairs $100, and have expended $99.48. Received for incidentals $10; have expended $12.84.

The Committee recommend:

1st. That $1.00 per inhabitant be appropriated for support of schools for the ensuing year.

2d. That $150 be appropriated for text books, and $15 for supplies.

3d. That $125 be appropriated for general repairs of schoolhouses.

4th. That $20 be appropriated for writing books.

5th. That a special appropriation be made for repairing and refurnishing the Mosher schoolhouse in No. 14.

Respectfully submitted,

F. O. BRAINERD,
E. M. DOWE,
W. F. HAWES,
Superintending School Committee.

China, March 1, 1900.

REPORT OF THE

Superintendent of Schools

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1900.

Financial Statement.

RESOURCES.

Unexpended school money of 1898-9,	$90 87	
Town appropriation for 1899-1900....	1423 00	
State school fund for 1899-1900.....	911 40	
Amount received from town of Albion	15 34	
Amount received from town of Palermo	29 16	
Total resources.....		$2469 77

EXPENDITURES.

Paid teachers for spring schools.....	654 50	
" " " fall schools.....	768 50	
" " " winter schools.....	638 50	
		2061 50

TRANSPORTATION.

Paid transportation for spring schools,	115 60	
" " " fall schools,	127 55	
" " " winter schools,	85 65	
		328 80

FUEL.

Paid for fuel to March 1, 1900.....		127 37
Total expenditures.		2517 67
Balance over expended.....		47 90

Text Book Account.

RESOURCES.

Town appropriation for text books,	$150 00	
Received from town of Albion for use of our text books	70	
Received from town of Palermo for use of our text books	3 15	
Total resources		$153 85

EXPENDITURES.

Paid American Book Co	42 44	
D. C. Heath & Co	6 25	
Shewell & Co	27 00	
Ginn & Co	72 66	
freight and express on books,	5 50	
		153 85

Town appropriation for the support of schools, $1.00 per inhabitant, or $1423.00.

Total number of scholars in town on the first day of April, A. D. 1899, 370.

Amount of school money per scholar for the year 1899-1900, $6.55.

Free High School Report.

The statute relating to free high schools provides that whenever any town fails to appropriate money for the support of a free high school, the inhabitants of any section of said town may organize a free high school precinct and receive state aid the same as the town might have done; provided, that no more than two such free high schools shall be established in the same town. Under this provision of the law free high schools have been held as usual at the Erskine high school building and at China village.

The Erskine school, under the charge of Prof. W. J. Thompson and wife, is not under our jurisdiction as a school officer.

The Village high school, under the charge of Miss Olive A. Gould of Albion, is supported entirely by

voluntary contributions and subscriptions, with such aid as is received from the state for the support of free high schools. This school has been visited by the Superintendent, and has been graded as is required by the state statute. The teacher of this school is a teacher of experience and ability, and with such teachers success is never uncertain. A term of this school is now in session.

Town School Report.

SCHOOL REGISTER.

Number	School	Term	Teacher	Enrollment	Av. attendance	Wages
1	Stanley Hill	Spring	Della S. Dutton	19	16	$6 50
		Fall	" "	12	11	6 50
		Winter	Ethel M. Kennison	13	10	6 50
2	China Neck	Spring	Mary L. Knowles	8	7	6 00
		Fall	Vesta A. Getchell	8	7	6 00
		Winter	Marguerite M. Pierce	8	8	6 00
4	China Village	Spring	Olive A. Gould	24	21	8 00
		Fall	" "	30	27	8 00
		Winter	" "	29	25½	8 00
6	Lakeside	Spring	Mary E. Ward	31	26	7 00
		Fall	" "	31	25	8 00
		Winter	O. F. Sproul	30	24	8 00
7	Dutton District	Spring	Fanny A. Dutton	11	10	5 00
		Fall	" "	11	10	5 00
		Winter	" "	11	10	5 50
8	Parmenter Hill	Spring	Guy Hall	15	10	6 50
		Fall	J. H. Mosher	16	11	7 00
		Winter	" "	10	8	7 50
9	Branch Mills	Spring	Ella M. Wixson	22	18	6 50
		Fall	" "	24	21	6 50
		Winter	Helen M. McDonald	16	12	6 50
11	Plains	Spring	Grace M. Hall	22	18	6 00
		Fall	" "	19	17	6 50
		Winter	" "	15	14	6 50
12	Deer Hill	Spring	Paulina Banks	9	8	5 00
		Fall	" "	9	5	5 50
		Winter	" "	7	7	5 50
13	Week's Mills	Spring	Persis M. Sibley	24	19	7 50
		Fall	" "	25	20	8 00
		Winter	" "	29	26	8 00
14	Chadwick Hill	Spring	Eva Harrington	17	15	6 00
		Fall	Guy Hall	13	10	6 00
		Winter	" "	14	10	6 00
16	Clark District	Spring	Bessie E. Jackson	9	9	5 00
		Fall	" "	10	10	5 00
		Winter	" "	10	8	5 50
17	South China	Spring	Herbert W. Hall	23	17	7 00
		Fall	Linnie C. Herrick	19	17	8 00
		Winter	Eva Farrington	24	21	8 00

At the annual meeting of the Superintending School Committee (March 23d) they voted that the school year be divided into three terms, commencing as near as practicable on the first Monday of May, second Monday of September, and first Monday of December, the spring term to be eight weeks in length, the fall term nine weeks, and the winter term in length according to the balance of unexpended school money.

We have conformed to this vote in running our schools as far as practicable. In Stanley Hill district the spring term was nine weeks in length, the fall term ten, and the winter term eight. Owing to this school having been shortened three weeks last year by reason of the sickness of their teacher during the winter term, it became necessary under the school law (which requires that each school shall be of the same aggregate annual length of terms in all its schools), to give this school three weeks more schooling than the other districts of the town. With this single exception the spring terms were all eight weeks in length. During the fall term Miss Wixson was obliged owing to sickness to leave her school at Branch Mills three weeks before its due time for closing, and the winter term in this district was therefore made three weeks longer so as to make the same aggregate length of school weeks during the year. Upon figuring up, at the close of the fall terms, we found that we had barely enough of unexpended school money to run the winter terms seven weeks, and by so doing, you will see that we have overexpended our school money by $47.90.

How happens it that with the amount of school money we raise as a town, we have been able to run our schools only twenty-four weeks during the entire school year?

This is very easily answered. For a number of years, in fact from the abolition of the old district system and the adoption of the town system,

our transportation bill has constantly increased from year to year until it has, during the present year, amounted to the sum of $328.80.

This means that $328.80 has been taken from our school money to secure transportation of scholars and that our school funds have decreased just that amount. This transportation bill seems unavoidable under the present statute. Your Superintending Committee have only ordered transportation in cases where it seems absolutely necessary; and your Superintendent has only secured transportation where they ordered it, and at the lowest terms that he could possibly obtain. It is the evident intention of the law that we should unite our schools into as few as may be convenient, make them as nearly uniform in size as possible, grade them, and secure transportation only where absolutely necessary. Thus you see we have secured all the disadvantages of the present law with but few of its advantages. It lies with you to decide whether we shall let the present condition exist. We as a town can not abolish the present law, neither can we by vote curtail this transportation bill, but the only thing we can do under the existing circumstances is to secure all the possible advantages that the law will give us.

In six of our schools the same teachers have been continued in the same schools for the entire school year, and this number would have been still greater had not circumstances prevented it. Miss Della Dutton, one of our most successful teachers, was unable, by reason of her health, to teach the winter term on Stanley Hill; and, therefore, a new teacher was secured to fill her position. Miss Eva Farrington, another successful teacher, after closing her spring term returned to the State Normal School at Farmington. The following are the teachers who have been continued in the same school during the whole school year: Olive A. Gould, Fanny A. Dutton, Grace M. Hall, Paulina Banks, Persis M. Sibley, Bessie E. Jack-

son; and the following teachers would probably have been continued had they not been obliged to leave: Della S. Dutton, Guy Hall, Eva Farrington, Mrs. Linnie Herrick and Ella M. Wixson.

Our schools as a whole have been very successful, and we think that with but a few exceptions, our teachers have labored earnestly and successfully for the advancement of their pupils. In only one of our schools can we report a failure; and, in this case, we depended upon the recommendation of a person holding an important position in one of our state normal schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

For the bettering of our schools we would recommend:

1st. Consolidation of Schools. For by the consolidation of our schools can we only receive the full advantages under the existing school laws.

2d. Graded Schools. Our schools should be as nearly uniform in size as possible, and should be graded from the primary to the high school.

3d. School Houses. The schoolhouses of our town are now in excellent condition, with but one or two exceptions. The schoolhouse at Chadwick Hill should be thoroughly repaired and the school building in the Clark district should be moved to as nearly as practicable the center of the late districts Nos. 15 and 16, so as to reduce if possible the cost of transportation I will say that our pupils have as a rule taken pride in their new school buildings; and I have had just reason to compliment them for the excellent care they have taken of these new buildings.

In closing, we will say that our scholars have been regular in attendance; and, in nearly every instance, have worked earnestly with their teachers in the endeavor to make the school pleasant and profitable

We have many bright, ambitious scholars who with favorable opportunity will soon rank among the best.

Respectfully submitted,

G. J. NELSON,

Superintendent of Schools.

China, March 2d, 1900.

Report of Board of Health.

The Board of Health of the town of China submit this their thirteenth annual report.

During the year past our town has been comparatively free from outbreaks of contagious diseases. In only one instance has a case of infectious disease been reported to our Board. Jan. 22d the secretary was notified by Dr. C. J. Lincoln, attending physician, that he was attending a child in the south part of our town, upon whom certain scarlet fever signs were manifest, and requested that the secretary see the case with him. The secretary visited this case in consultation with Dr. Lincoln. This case was certainly not a typical case of scarlet fever, it being a case of skin disease with scarletiform eruption and certain scarletina symptoms, but under the circumstances we considered it safest to use every precaution, as scarlet fever was all around us in adjoining towns. We therefore placarded the house for a few weeks.

No nuisances have been reported to our Board during the entire year.

Our four regular quarterly meetings have been held as required by the statute law.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Board.

G. J. NELSON, M. D.,

China, March 2, 1900. Secretary.

Vital Statistics.

Registered in the town of China from March 1, 1899, to February 28, 1900.

Number of intentions of marriage, 12.
Number of marriages, - - - 15.

Number of births, 23.
Number of deaths, 34.

Deaths registered in the town of China from March 1, 1899, to February 28, 1900.

DATE OF DEATH.	PLACE OF DEATH.	NAME OF DECEASED.	AGE. Years.	AGE. Months.	AGE. Days.	Single, Married, or Widowed	PLACE OF BIRTH.	PLACE OF BURIAL. CEMETERY.	PLACE OF BURIAL. TOWN.
Mar. 2, 1899	Augusta, Me.	Phebe D. Patten	71	7	9	S	China, Me.		China, Me.
Apr. 9, "	China "	Olive C. Webb	89	7		W	Newburgh "		Winterport "
" 14, "	Hallowell "	Rebecca M. Newbert	63			"	China "	Dudley	China "
" 25, "	China "	Caroline E. Dow	70	4	26	"	Liberty "	China Village	" "
" 28, "	" "	Nancy D. Newell	75			"	Knox "	Branch Mills	" "
May 14, "	" "	Joel Hallowell	79	7	9	"	Windsor "		Sidney "
" 15, "	" "	Sarah A. Horne	78	4		"	Not reported		Augusta "
" 22, "	" "	Thomas Parmenter	81	2	18	M	China, Me.	China Village	China "
June 4, "	" "	Dora M. Webber	34			"	" "	South China	" "
" 15, "	" "	Cynthia Pinkham	80	5	5	"	Palermo "	Greeley's Cor.	Palermo "

June	16,	1899	China,	Me.	Infant daughter of Wm. R. and Dora M. Webber			12	S	China,	Me.	South China	China, Me.
"	"	"	"	"	Annie M. Page	56	5	6	"	Vassalboro	"	E. Vassalboro	Vassalboro "
"	29,	"	"	"	Rachel Ripley	75			"	Washington	"		Washington "
July	21,	"	"	"	William P. Curtis	62	7		M	Peabody, Mass.		Week's Mills	China "
Aug.	5,	"	"	"	William T. Tolman	72	3		"	Chelsea	"	Branch Mills	" "
"	12,	"	Portland	"	Henry C. Rice	55	8	20	"	Union,	Me.	China Village	" "
"	26,	"	China	"	Harold E. Getchell			2	S	China	"	E. Vassalboro	Vassalboro "
"	28,	"	"	"	Reuel H. Worthing	71	7	14	W	Palermo	"	Branch Mills	China "
"	30,	"	"	"	Ann J. Smiley	69	9	30	"	China	"	China Village	" "
Sept.	19,	"	"	"	Abbie A. Farnsworth	48	7	3	"	Pl's't Rdg pl	"	" "	" "
"	20,	"	"	"	Julia Webber		2	18	S	China	"	Lake View	" "
Oct.	13,	"	"	"	Betsey W. Mosher	83			W	"	"	Week's Mills	" "
"	25,	"	"	"	Martha A. Osborn	71	10	21	"	Canada		" "	" "
"	31,	"	"	"	Walter Stuart	96		4	"	New Castle,	Me	Chadwick Hill	" "
Nov.	12,	"	Vassalboro	"	Lydia Page	71	2		"	Vassalboro	"	South China	" "
"	23,	"	China	"	Miriam C. Fletcher	74	10	28	M	China	"	China Village	" "
Dec.	3,	"	"	"	John T. Gray	84		15	W	"	"	Deer Hill	" "
Jan.	1,	1900	"	"	Harriet N. McLaughlin	81	4	7	"	"	"	Week's Mills	" "
"	6,	"	Augusta	"	Cyrene Haskell	78	6	25	"	Windsor	"		" "
"	12,	"	China	"	Cora E. Davis	42	9		M	Vassalboro	"	Lake View	" "
"	13,	"	"	"	Rollin Reed	77		21	"	China	"	Dudley	" "
"	16,	"	"	"	Carrie A. Sproul	43	10	13	"	Windsor	"	Week's Mills	" "
"	28,	"	"	"	Sarah J. Hall	65	6	19	"	China	"	" "	" "
Feb.	13,	"	"	"	Martha A. Runnels	68	11	27	W	Windsor	"	Chadwick Hill	" "

W. W. WASHBURN, Town Clerk.

Notice.

To Fred O. Bonney, a Constable in the town of China, in the county of Kennebec and State of Maine, Greeting:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the said town of China, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town House in said town, on Monday, the nineteenth day of March, A. D. 1900, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

" 2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.

" 3. To choose Selectmen for the ensuing year.

" 4. To choose Assessors for the ensuing year.

" 5. To choose Overseers of the Poor for the ensuing year.

" 6. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.

" 7. To choose a Collector and one or more Constables for the ensuing year.

" 8. To see if the town will vote to choose a Superintendent of Schools for the ensuing year.

" 9. To choose a Superintendent of Schools if

the town so votes, and establish pay for same.

Article 10. To choose a member of the School Committee.

" 11. To see if the town will vote to elect a Road Commissioner.

" 12. To choose a Road Commissioner if the town so vote and to establish pay for same.

" 13. To choose an Auditor for the ensuing year.

" 14. To choose all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

" 15. To see what method the town will take in relation to collection of taxes.

" 16. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for the repair of roads and bridges, and for the breaking down of snow.

" 17. To see what sum of money town will vote to raise and appropriate for the support of the poor.

" 18. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for the support of schools.

" 19. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for the repair of schoolhouses.

" 20. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for the purchase of text books.

Article 21. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for miscellaneous expenses.

" 22. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to establish a sinking fund for the liquidation of town bonds, and if any, how much.

" 23. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to pay interest on town bonds.

" 24. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to locate and build a schoolhouse in the late school dist. No. 21.

" 25. To see if the town will vote to continue the schools in the late school dists. Nos. 2 and 12, and in other districts where the vote of the town is necessary.

" 26. To see what action the town will take in regard to opening the causeway from G. A. R. Hall, south side causeway, across the street down by the south west side of the postoffice, said causeway to be made wider and deeper.

" 27. To see if the town will vote to accept a donation of five hundred dollars from Thomas Dinsmore, the interest of said fund to be used yearly for the benefit of deserving poor.

Hereof fail not and have you there this warrant with your doings thereon.

The Selectmen hereby give notice that they will be in session at the Town House, in said town, at eight o'clock on the morning of said meeting, for the purpose of correcting the list of voters.

Given under our hands at China this tenth day of March, A. D. 1900.

A. P. MOSHER,
J. O. FISH,
E. A. DUDLEY,
Selectmen of China.

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